it had hired plane/helicopter 11 times from outside agencies during the last 5 years incurring a total expenditure of Rs. 32.11 lakhs. Such hiring was done for:

(i) Carrying CIL/NEC officials to mine accident sites at TIPONG and JEYPORE.

(ii) Visits of Ministers accompanied by officials of CIL/NEC to NEC projects/mines at SIMSONG, JEYPORE, CMPDIL's Regional Institute at TURA.

Plane/helicopter had to be hired as the colliery/projects of NEC are not rail linked and journey by road is time consuming. As NEC is part of CIL there is no need to hire plane of CIL by NEC.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

दक्षिण-पूर्व कोयला क्षेत्र में कोयले का गैर निर्धारित स्थानों के लिए परिवहन करने के मामले

2029. **श्री दलीपसिंह जूदेव :** क्या **कोयला** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1995-96 और वर्ष 1996-97 में दक्षिण-पूर्व कोयला क्षेत्र में कोयले को निर्धारित स्थानों की बजाए अन्य स्थानों पर परिवहन करके ले जाने और निर्धारित मात्रा में अधिक मात्रा में लदान करने के कितने मामलों का पता चला है ; है ;

(ख) इसी अवधि में पकड़े गए मामलों में ट्रक मालिकों के नाम और और पते ट्रक नम्बर क्या-क्या थे ;

(ग) इन मामलों में संलिप्त पाए गए कर्मचारियों और अधिकारियों का ब्यौरा क्या है और उनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई ; और

(घ) व 1997-98 के दौरान जुलाई 1997 तक ऐसे मामलों और उन पर की गई कार्यवाही का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय की राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती कान्ति सिंह) : (क) साउथ ईस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लि० में ऐसे मामले रिपोर्ट नहीं किए गए हैं।

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठते हैं।

Dispute between CIL and Gujarat State Electricity Board

2030. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any dispute between the CIL and Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) regarding receipt and supply of coal has come to the notice of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how much amount is being disputed by GEB with CIL in this regard; and

(d) steps Government propose to take to settle issue amicably betwen CIL and GEB?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (d) As per the statistics made available by Coal India Ltd. (CIL), the total outstanding dues to CIL from Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) against coal supplies as on 30-6-97 were Rs. 272.57 crores out of which Rs. 28.31 crores were disputed.

The Gujarat Electricity Board (GEB) have however separately submitted certain claims on various coal supplying companies. Some of these claims were settled by coal companies to the extent acceptable and in accordance with the decisions mutually arrived at and some claims of GEB were rejected. However, the GEB have been repeatedly requesting for reconsideration of the rejected claims. Coal

companies are agreeable to renegotiate their claims as well as the counter claims of GEB for resolving the disputes. Accordingly, GEB has been advised to depute a team of senior officers to coal companies to sort out the claims of coal companies and also the counter claims of GEB.

Production and consumption of Coal

2031. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any data of total production and consumption of coal in our country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how much coal is being imported every year and from which countries; and

(d) the details, country-wise and name of the importer agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Total coal production and coal offtake in the country during 1996-97 are as under:—

(million tonnes)

Production	Offtake
285.66	286.16

(c) and (d) As per the existing import policy, coal can be freely imported and such imports are generally resorted to by the actual consumers of coal without any reference to the Ministry of Coal. However as per the information available in the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), Calcutta, the quantum of coal imported during 1996-97 was 13.25 million tonnes (provisional). Out of this 9.59 million tonnes (provisional) of coking coal was imprted by steel plants of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) and Tata Iron and Steel Company (TISCO). Countries from where bulk of the coal is being imported are Australia, New Zealand, Peoples' Republic of China, South Africa and the USA.

Approval of coal mining plan

2032. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a mining plan has to be approved by Central Government before a captive mining lease for Coal can be granted by concerned State Government;

(b) whether the norm stipulates that the coal from such mines for power sector would be used for captive generation and not for sale outside;

(c) whether in the case of Central India Coal Company (CICC) a Captive Coal Company in Chandrapur for Bhadrawati Power Plant in Maharashtra (a) and (b) above have been followed; and

(d) whether CICC is proposing to sell the mined coal to users other than Bhadrawati Power Plant. If yes, whether the same is being prohibited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) Before a lease for mining coal can be granted by the concerned State Government, a mining plan has to be approved by the Central Government and the prior permission of the Central Government for grant of a lease must be sought for and granted by the Central Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In the case of Central India Coal Company the mining plan was approved by the Central Government and approval communicated on 13-9-96. The State Government has sought the prior permission of the Central Government for grant of mining lease but this has so far not been accorded.